



# UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE  
United States Patent and Trademark Office  
Address: COMMISSIONER FOR PATENTS  
P.O. Box 1450  
Alexandria, Virginia 22313-1450  
www.uspto.gov

| APPLICATION NO.  | FILING DATE | FIRST NAMED INVENTOR | ATTORNEY DOCKET NO. | CONFIRMATION NO. |
|--|-------------|----------------------|---------------------|------------------|
| 09/771,629   | 01/30/2001  | Shai Darin           | P-3030-US           | 1265             |
| 27130  | 7590        | 09/22/2004           | EXAMINER            |                  |
| EITAN, PEARL, LATZER & COHEN ZEDEK LLP<br>10 ROCKEFELLER PLAZA, SUITE 1001<br>NEW YORK, NY 10020 |             |                      | USTARIS, JOSEPH G   |                  |
|  |             |                      | ART UNIT            | PAPER NUMBER     |
|  |             |                      | 2616                | 7                |

DATE MAILED: 09/22/2004

Please find below and/or attached an Office communication concerning this application or proceeding.

# Office Action Summary

Application No.

09/771,629

Applicant(s)

DARIN ET AL.

Examiner

Joseph G Ustaris

Art Unit

2616

-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address --  
Period for Reply

A SHORTENED STATUTORY PERIOD FOR REPLY IS SET TO EXPIRE 3 MONTH(S) FROM THE MAILING DATE OF THIS COMMUNICATION.

- Extensions of time may be available under the provisions of 37 CFR 1.136(a). In no event, however, may a reply be timely filed after SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- If the period for reply specified above is less than thirty (30) days, a reply within the statutory minimum of thirty (30) days will be considered timely.
- If NO period for reply is specified above, the maximum statutory period will apply and will expire SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- Failure to reply within the set or extended period for reply will, by statute, cause the application to become ABANDONED (35 U.S.C. § 133). Any reply received by the Office later than three months after the mailing date of this communication, even if timely filed, may reduce any earned patent term adjustment. See 37 CFR 1.704(b).

## Status

- 1) ☐ Responsive to communication(s) filed on \_\_\_\_.
- 2a) ☐ This action is **FINAL**. 2b) ☒ This action is non-final.
- 3) ☐ Since this application is in condition for allowance except for formal matters, prosecution as to the merits is closed in accordance with the practice under *Ex parte Quayle*, 1935 C.D. 11, 453 O.G. 213.

## Disposition of Claims

- 4) ☒ Claim(s) 1-13 is/are pending in the application.
- 4a) Of the above claim(s) \_\_\_\_ is/are withdrawn from consideration.
- 5) ☐ Claim(s) \_\_\_\_ is/are allowed.
- 6) ☒ Claim(s) 1-13 is/are rejected.
- 7) ☐ Claim(s) \_\_\_\_ is/are objected to.
- 8) ☐ Claim(s) \_\_\_\_ are subject to restriction and/or election requirement.

## Application Papers

- 9) ☐ The specification is objected to by the Examiner.
- 10) ☐ The drawing(s) filed on \_\_\_\_ is/are: a) ☐ accepted or b) ☐ objected to by the Examiner.  
Applicant may not request that any objection to the drawing(s) be held in abeyance. See 37 CFR 1.85(a).  
Replacement drawing sheet(s) including the correction is required if the drawing(s) is objected to. See 37 CFR 1.121(d).
- 11) ☐ The oath or declaration is objected to by the Examiner. Note the attached Office Action or form PTO-152.

## Priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119

- 12) ☐ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).
- a) ☐ All b) ☐ Some \* c) ☐ None of:
- ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.
  - ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. \_\_\_\_.
  - ☐ Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this National Stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).

\* See the attached detailed Office action for a list of the certified copies not received.

## Attachment(s)

- |  |   |
|--|---|
| 1) <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Notice of References Cited (PTO-892)  | 4) <input type="checkbox"/> Interview Summary (PTO-413)<br>Paper No(s)/Mail Date. ____. |
| 2) <input type="checkbox"/> Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948)                                   | 5) <input type="checkbox"/> Notice of Informal Patent Application (PTO-152)             |
| 3) <input type="checkbox"/> Information Disclosure Statement(s) (PTO-1449 or PTO/SB/08)<br>Paper No(s)/Mail Date ____. | 6) <input type="checkbox"/> Other: ____.  |

**DETAILED ACTION**

***Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 102***

1. The following is a quotation of the appropriate paragraphs of 35 U.S.C. 102 that form the basis for the rejections under this section made in this Office action:

A person shall be entitled to a patent unless –

(e) the invention was described in (1) an application for patent, published under section 122(b), by another filed in the United States before the invention by the applicant for patent or (2) a patent granted on an application for patent by another filed in the United States before the invention by the applicant for patent, except that an international application filed under the treaty defined in section 351(a) shall have the effects for purposes of this subsection of an application filed in the United States only if the international application designated the United States and was published under Article 21(2) of such treaty in the English language.

Claims 1-13 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 102(e) as being anticipated by Chernock et al. (US 20030159150A1).

Regarding claim 1, Chernock et al. (Chernock) discloses a method for automatic and semi-automatic event scheduling based on information embedded in a multimedia content, where the set-top-box (STB) is able to “notifying a viewer of at least one event” by providing a notification on a television or “viewing device” (See Fig. 1 and Fig. 3). The STB is able to monitor “at least one transmission signal” (See Fig. 2 step 210; paragraph 0016) and extract various information or “extracting information from said at least one transmission signal” (See paragraph 0045). The extracted information “corresponds to data entered into a database” (See paragraph 0042 and 0049). The STB then provides “a notification for said at least one event from said extracted information” (See Fig. 2 step 295; paragraph 0056). The STB also provides “at least one mechanism for responding to said notification” (See paragraph 0058).

Regarding claim 2, the STB also provides "at least one mechanism for switching said viewing device to said at least one event" (See paragraph 0057 and 0058).

Regarding claim 3, the STB also compares "information in said monitored signal with said information corresponding to data entered into said database" (See paragraph 0049).

Regarding claim 4, the reminder or notification "includes providing a visual notification" (See paragraph 0058).

Regarding claim 5, the reminder or notification "includes providing an aural notification" (See paragraph 0059).

Regarding claim 6, the STB schedules events such as multimedia presentations or "programs" (See paragraph 0043 and 0057).

Claim 7 contains the limitations of claim 1 and is analyzed as previously discussed with respect to that claim. Furthermore, the STB includes "a storage device for storing data entered into said storage device" (See Fig. 1 Memory; paragraph 0042) and "a microprocessor coupled to said storage device" (See Fig. 1 uProc; paragraph 0039) that controls the functions of the STB.

Claim 8 contains the limitations of claims 2 and 7 and is analyzed as previously discussed with respect to those claims.

Claim 9 contains the limitations of claims 3 and 7 and is analyzed as previously discussed with respect to those claims.

Claim 10 contains the limitations of claims 4 and 7 and is analyzed as previously discussed with respect to those claims.

Claim 11 contains the limitations of claims 5 and 7 and is analyzed as previously discussed with respect to those claims.

Claim 12 contains the limitations of claims 6 and 7 and is analyzed as previously discussed with respect to those claims.

Claim 13 contains the limitations of claims 1 and 7 (where inherently the microprocessor and STB are run by a "computer program" that is stored on a "computer-useable storage medium" in order to successfully carryout its functions) and is analyzed as previously discussed with respect to those claims.

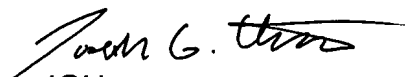
### ***Conclusion***

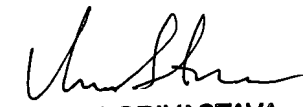
2. The prior art made of record and not relied upon is considered pertinent to applicant's disclosure. Please take note of Wagner et al. (US006600496B1) for their similar methods of notifying a user or viewer.

Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to Joseph G Ustaris whose telephone number is 703-305-0377. The examiner can normally be reached on M-F 7:30-5PM; Alternate Fridays off.

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, Andrew I Faile can be reached on 703-305-4380. The fax phone number for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned is 703-872-9306.

Information regarding the status of an application may be obtained from the Patent Application Information Retrieval (PAIR) system. Status information for published applications may be obtained from either Private PAIR or Public PAIR. Status information for unpublished applications is available through Private PAIR only. For more information about the PAIR system, see <http://pair-direct.uspto.gov>. Should you have questions on access to the Private PAIR system, contact the Electronic Business Center (EBC) at 866-217-9197 (toll-free).

  
JGU  
September 9, 2004

  
VIVEK SRIVASTAVA  
PRIMARY EXAMINER